

S. 57

THE
EXPEDITION
OF His HIGHNESS the
Prince of ORANGE
For ENGLAND.

giving an Account of the most remarkable Passages
theretof, from the Day of his setting Sail from Hol-
land, to the first Day of this instant December,
1688.

HIS Highness the Prince of Orange set Sail from Holland
with 31 Men of War, 18 Fire-ships, and about 330
Tenders, being Ships hired of Merchants for the car-
riage of Horse and Foot, Arms, Ammunition, &c. The Fleet
went out at Sea to the *Northward*, which met with horrid Storms
two Days and two Nights together, in which bad Wea-
ther there were lost above 500 Horse, and a Vessel parted from
the Fleet, wherein were 400 Foot, supposed to be lost, but now
found to be arrived safe at the *Texel*, but grievously shatter'd
and torn by the Storms; two of the Prince's principal Men of
War were forced to new Rigg at *Helversluse*.
The Prince immediately, on his return back, inform'd the
King of the condition of the Fleet, (which was not so dam-
ageable as was represented by the Vulgar and Ignorant) who
there-

thereupon, to lull a great Man asleep, the States, or some one employed by them, order'd, That the *Harlem* and *Amsterdam* Courantier should make a dismal Story of it, by representing to the World, that the Prince returned with his Fleet miserably shatter'd and torn, having lost nine Men of War, and divers others of less Concern; 1000 Horse ruin'd; a Calenture among the Sea-men; the loss of Dr. *Burnet*, and the chief Ministers under the Prince; the ill Opinion the States had of the Expedition: In short, that a 100000 *l.* would not repair the Dammage sustained; and, almost next to an impossibility, that the Prince should be in a condition to pursue his Design till the Spring. And yet at the same time all hands were at work to repair the damaged Ships, which were inconsiderable; so that in eight days time they were all re-fitted. The Signal being given by the discharge of a Gun, all the Fleet immediately weigh'd Anchor and stood out at Sea, steering their Course *Northward* all that Night; next day, upon Tide of Ebb, they made a Stretch, and made a Watch above a League, and then stood *Westward*, and lay all Night in the same posture; not making two Leagues of Watch.

In the middle of the Night, an Advice-Boat brought us an Account, that the English Fleet, consisting of 33 Sail, lay to the *Westward* of ours. Upon which the Prince fired a Gun, which caused a great Consternation in the whole Fleet, we having a brisk *Easterly* Wind, concluded themselves to be all ruin'd: But the small Advice-Boats cruising for a more certain Account of the English, brought us back word, That instead of the English Fleet, which the former Advice had alarm'd us with, it was Admiral *Herbert* with part of our Fleet, which had been separated some hours from the Body of the Fleet: Upon whose arrival, great rejoicing was among us all, and a Signal of Joy was given for it by the Prince.

In the Morning, about Eight, the Prince gave a Signal, that the Admirals should come aboard him: Immediately after the whole Fleet was got into the *North-foreland*, upon which the Prince gave the usual Sign of Danger, (according to the printed Book) and ordered that the Fleet should all come up in a Body, some fifteen or sixteen deep, his Highness leading the Van, in the Ship *Brill*, (in English, *Spectacles*): His Flag was English Colours; the Motto impaled thereon, is, THE PRO-

STANT RELIGION, AND LIBERTIES OF ENGLAND; and underneath, instead of *Din & Mon Droit*, AND I WILL MAINTAIN IT.

The Council of War, from aboard the Prince, sent three small Frigats into the Mouth of the *Thames*, viz. the *Porpus*, *Philion*, and *Mercury*; who on their return, brought us word, that the English Fleet lay in the *Buoy of the Nore*, consisting of 34 Sail, and three more which lay in the Downs. The Wind continuing at E. N. E.

The Prince immediately thereupon, gave another Signal of stretching the whole Fleet in a Line, from *Dover* to *Callis*, twenty five deep: So that our Fleet reached within a League of each place; the Flanks and Reer were guarded by our Men of War. This sight would have ravish'd the most curious Eyes in *Europe*. When our Fleet was in its greatest splendour, the Trumpets and Drums playing various Tunes to rejoyce our hearts; this continued for above three hours.

Immediately after the Prince gave us a Sign to close, and we sailed that night as far as *Beachy*, and commanded us to follow the Signal by Lights he had hung out to us, viz. all the small Sail should come up to him by morning.

By the morning-day we espied the *Ile of Wight*, and then the Prince ordered the Fleet to be drawn into the same posture as before related: yet not stretching above half Channel over this place. About five in the morning we made the Start, the Wind chopping about to the *Westward*; upon which we stood fair by *Dartmouth*, and so made for *Tor-bay*; where the Prince again ordered the whole Fleet into the same posture as at *Dover* and *Callis*.

Upon his arrival at *Tor-bay*, the People on Land, in great numbers, welcom'd his Highness with loud Acclamations of Joy.

Immediately after the Prince gave two Signals, that the Admirals should come aboard him, which they did; and then order'd, that the whole Fleet should come to an Anchor, and immediately Land; and further order'd, that the Admirals should stand out at Sea as a Guard, as well as the smaller Men of War to Attend and Guard their Landing; and also order'd six Men of War to run in to Guard *Tor-bay*.

The Prince then put out a Red Flag at the Misen-yard-arm; and provided to land in sixty Boats, laid ready for that purpose: Upon which the Prince signified, that General Mackay with his six Regiments of *English* and *Scots* should first Land; and also, that the little *Porpus* with eighteen Guns should run a-ground to secure their Landing: But there was no Opposition; for the People bid us *Heartily Welcome* to England; and gave us all manner of Provisions for our Refreshment.

The fifth of *November* (a Day never to be blotted out of the *English-man's Heart*) the Prince caused to be landed about 2000: The Country bringing in all manner of Provision both for Man and Horse, and were paid their Price honestly for it.

The Prince the same Day commanded Captain M—— to search the Lady C——'s House, at *Tor-Abby*, for Arms and Horses; and so all other Houses which were *Roman Catholics*. The Lady entertained them civilly, said her Husband was gone to *Plymouth*: They brought from thence some Horses, and a few Arms, but gave no further Disturbance to the Lady or her House. Nor shall it be forgotten, what was faithfully acted at this Lady's House, immediately on our arrival at *Tor-bay*: There was a Priest, and some others with him were upon a Watch-Tower to discover what our Fleet was, whether *French* or *Dutch*: At last they discovered the White Flags on some of our Men of War; the ignorant Priest concluded absolutely we were the *French* Fleet, which with great impatience they had so long expected; and having laid up great Provisions for their Entertainment, the Priest ordered all to the Chappel to sing *Te Deum* for the arrival of their supposed Forces; but being soon deceived, on our Landing, we found the benefit of their Provisions; and instead of *Vestre Service Monsieur*, they were entertained with *Tien Minheers*, *Can you Dutch spraken?* Upon which they all ran away from the House, but the Lady and a few old Servants.

Presently after the Prince of *Orange's* Landing, he sent a *Quinee* to the Earl of *Burb*, which was supposed to intimate his coming in to him.

The whole Army, to the best of my knowledg, consisted of about 30000 Horse and Foot, Volunteers, &c. The News of the Prince's

Prince's landing was brought to the City of *Exeter* by several Expresses to the Earl of *Bath*: they landed all their Horse first of all, and after that the Foot, all the Army being ashore by *Tuesday* Three of the Clock in the Afternoon, all their Baggage, Provisions, and Ammunition being sent about for *Topham*, where they were brought up by Water to this City, there was abundance landed with the Prince at *Torbay* for present Service in case they should need it. The *Wednesday*, being the 7th current, one Captain *Hicks* came to Town (who is the Son of that worthy Divine Mr. *John Hicks* the N. C. deceased) and as soon as he came, the Mob in very great numbers flocked to him to list themselves in the Service of the Prince of *Orange*, which the Mayor hearing of, sent for him and questioned with him, whether he had a Commission for what he did? but he would produce none, nor give any account of the Prince's Design, upon which he was committed to Prison; but the Concourse of People was so great about the *Guild-Hall*, that they would not suffer him to be carried away, so he remained there till next day in the Custody of two Constables, and was very nobly provided for by the Mayor; *Thursday* the Lord *Mordant* with three or four Troops of Horse came to Town, and Dr. *Burnet* with him, and when they came to the Gate of this City it was shut against them, upon which the Lord *Mordant* commanded the Porter to open the Gate on pain of Death, which was presently set open, and being open, required him on the same Penalty not to shut it again: as soon as they were entered, the Lord *M.* went to the Hall, and set Captain *Hicks* at liberty, and inquired of his Usage, who gave the Lord *M.* a very large Character of the Mayor's Civility & Respect to him, upon which there was a Guinea given those that waited on him; that Afternoon the Lord *M.* and Dr. *Burnet* waited on the Mayor to know if he would meet the Prince at the Gate, and govern the City under him? which he excused, and told them he was under the Obligation of an Oath to his Majesty, and therefore desired the Prince would lay no Commands on him that should be prejudicial to his Conscience, and after some debate of the Matter they departed, all the *Thursday* they kept coming to Town; the *Friday* the Prince came with his Guards, and were marching into, and some through the City in places adjacent about three hours without ceasing, and more

or less they came in still until Night; Men better hors'd I never saw in all my Life.

The Prince's Entry was in this manner :

1. The Right Honourable the Earl of *Macklesfield* with 200 Horse, the most part of which were *English* Gentlemen richly mounted on *Flanders* Steeds, (managed and used to War) in Head-Pieces, Back and Breast, bright Armour.
2. 200 Blacks, brought from the Plantations of the *Netherlands* in *America*, having on Imbroider'd Caps lin'd with white Fur, and Plumes of White Feathers, to attend the Horse.
3. 200 *Finlanders* or *Laplanders*, in Bears Skins, taken from the Wild Beasts they had slain, the common Habit of that cold Climate, with black Armour, and broad flaming Swords.
4. 50 Gentlemen, and as many Pages to attend and support the Prince's Banner, bearing this Inscription, GOD and the PROTESTANT RELIGION.
5. 50 Led-Horses, all manag'd and brought up to the Wars, with two Grooms to each Horse, and two Coaches of State.
6. After these Rid the Prince on a Milk-white Palfrey, armed Cap-a-Pec, a Plum of White Feathers on his Head, all in bright Armour, and forty two Foot-men running by him.
7. After his Highness followed likewise on Horseback 200 Gentlemen and Pages.
8. 300 *Switzers* with Fuzees.
9. 500 Volunteers, each two led-Horses.
10. His Captain and Guards 600 armed Cap-a-Pec. The rest of the Army brought up the Reer.

Saturday most part of the day, and Sabbath-day, and Monday, and Tuesday the main Body of the Army came, and most of them, only some few Regiments of Foot, marched to *Tiverton*, *Collampton*, *Honiton*, &c. and to the Neighbouring Parishes, and the Foot to *Cliff-beath*, where they incamped and pitch'd their Tents. The Bishop fled, and is come for *London*, and we hear is made Arch-bishop of *Tork*; the Dean likewise withdrew, whose House the Prince took for his Lodgings. The Lord's-day *Dr. Burnet* preach'd at the Cathedral on the last Verse of 107th Psalm, wherein he observed the wonderful Providence of God towards them in the whole Conduct of Affairs in this Undertaking, and how they intended to have landed the 4th of *November* if it had been possible, it being the

the Prince's Birth-day, and the Day of his Marriage to the Princess, but they could not possibly make the Land, and so could not get the Shoar till the 5th, that *England's* Deliverance might be begun on the same Day that it was formerly designed for Ruin and Destruction. On Monday all the Canons that were in Town were summoned to appear in the Quire, and likewise the Singing-Men, when after they had sung *Te Deum*, Dr. *Burnet* read the Prince's Declaration, and after the Declaration, a short Prayer for the Success of the Prince, and so departed. There was not one of the Canons appeared; and when the Declaration was reading the Singing-Men went away, they being commanded in the Service to forbear praying for the Prince of *Wales*. Monday Captain *Burrington*, who lives by *Crediton*, came to the Prince and offered him his Service, who was very kindly received by Him; after that every day the Gentry from all parts of *Devonshire*, *Somersetshire*, &c. flocked to him in great numbers, it would take up too much time to name them, few absenting themselves, and those that did, there is great notice taken of them; they have entered into an Association to stand and fall with the Prince; several Lords came to him while here, as the Lord *Colchester*, the Lord *Abbingdon*, the Lord *Cornbury*, the Lord *Shrewsbury*, &c. It is incredible to tell you what they have brought with them, except you saw it, there being 200 of their Ships come into the River of *Topsham*. *Plymouth* Fort is surrendered to the Prince by the Lord of *Bath*, and the Lord *Huntington*, and the Popish Officers that were therein with Father *Turner* are seized and secured, and the Popish Souldiers discharged; and coming hither and owning themselves such, are committed by Mr. *Seamour*, who is made our Governour, and one Major *Gibson* Deputy-Governour. Here are several thousands of Souldiers that have lifted themselves, and many thousands more would have done the same, but the Marschal *de Schomberg* told the Prince there was no need of them, so were dismissed again. They have a vast Treasure with them, I am certainly informed of 50 Waggon's loaded with Cash. They have landed about 120 Field-Guns, several of which remain still here, the other are gone with the Prince. The last News we had was, that the Prince was at the Earl of *Bristol's*, which is by *Sherborn*, where we are informed that Prince *George*, the Duke of *Grafton*, the Lord *Churchill*,

Churchill, and Colonel Trelawny met him, and that the Prince saluted them in the words of David to the Men of Judah and Benjamin, 1 Chron. 12. 17. *If ye be come peaceably unto me to help me, mine Heart shall be knit unto you; but if ye be come to betray me to mine Enemies, seeing there is no Wrong in my Hands, the God of our Fathers look thereon, and rebuke it.* And they replied in the words of Amasai in the 18th Verse, *Thine are we, David, and on thy side, thou Son of Jesse: Peace, Peace be unto thee, and Peace be unto thine Helpers, for thy God helpeth thee.* Then David received them, and made them Captains of the Band. The Prince at his going from hence, gave the Mayor this Character, That he was worthy to be trusted, for being faithful to his Trust.

*A further Account of the Prince's Army, in a
Letter sent from Exon, dated Nov. 24.*

HAD I not insensibly over-slipt my Time the last Post, you had received this then: When I came here, I endeavoured to inform my self, after the best manner I could, as to the Number and Quality of the Prince's Army, and all generally concluded them to be about 30000, all pick'd Men, and many of them personally present at the Siege of *Buda*. This I am certain of, that they appeared to be Men resolute, well Disciplined, and Stout, and of an extraordinary Stature, and their Arms suitable; Musquets, Swords, and Pikes, being far larger than ever I yet saw; and notwithstanding the Streets were thronged, almost as thick as yours on a Lord-Mayor's Day, yet was it even a rarity to see one of them shorter than six Foot, and some of them were, I am confident, six foot and a quarter, if not six foot and an half in Height: So that were it lawful to trust in an Arm of Flesh, they might have some cause to presume; but the tenour of their words were otherwise, their civil deportment, and their honesty of paying for what they have, (and the strictness of their Discipline hinders them

them from being otherwise) winning not a little the Affections of the Country-men, who daily resort hither, forty or fifty in a Gang, to be Lifted. My Lord *Mordant's* Regiment was soon compleated, which with two others, was raised and maintained at the Charge of the Gentry in this County, of which *Edward Seymour Esq;* is by the Prince made Governour. During his Highness stay here, which was till last *Wednesday*, there appeared a Court most splendid, composed, not only of Foreign, but of many of the English Nobility and Gentry, which came hither to wait on his Highness since his Arrival, of both Ranks, upwards to the number of Sixty, all mighty Gallant in their Equipage, each striving thereby to add to the Glory of their Design. The Gentry of these Parts first seemed slow in their Advances to serve the Prince; but as soon as the Ice was broke by Capt: *Burrington*, the majority soon followed his steps, and have entred into an Association. It is to admiration to consider the vast Magazine of all Warlike Utensils brought hither by the Prince's Army, their Baggage having for a Fortnight together been continually Landing, and yet not fully ended: Were it not for the badness of the Roads, as I was informed by a private Sentinel, they could draw into the Field an Artillery of above 200 Pieces: But the greatest Curiosity I yet saw, was a Bridge of Boats, such as I conceive the *Imperialists* use to pass over the *Danube* and *Sava* with, which was for the speedy conveyance of their Carriages, laid over the River in two or three fours, and afterwards as soon removed, not to mention a Smith's Shop or Forge, curiously contrived in a Waggon: or another Contrivance the Foot carry with them to keep off the Horse, which in their manner may well yield the Service of a Pike.

There hath been lately driven into *Dartmouth*, and since taken, a *French* Vessel loaden altogether with Images, and Knives of a very large proportion, in length nineteen Inches, and in breadth two Inches and an half; what they were designed for I only know:

T H R E E L E T T E R S.

I. *A Letter from a Jesuit of Liege, to a Jesuit at Friburg, giving an Account of the Happy Progress of Religion in England.*

IT cannot be said what great Affection and Kindness the K. hath for the Society, wishing much Health to this whole Colledg by R. P. the Provincial, and earnestly recommending himself to our Prayers. The Provincial, *Alexander Regnier*, being come back for *England*, the K. was graciously pleased to send for him; (several Earls and Dukes waiting his coming at the hour appointed) the Q. being present, the King discoursing familiarly with him, asked him, *How many young Students he had, and how many Scholasticks?* To which (when the Provincial had answered, That of the latter he had Twenty, of the former more than Fifty) he added, *That he had need of double or treble that number to perform what he in his Mind had designed for the Society;* and commanded that they should be very well exercised in the Gift of Preaching; *for such only* (saith he) *do we want in England.*

You have heard, I make no doubt, that the K. hath sent Letters to Father *Le Cheefe*, the French King's Confessor, about *Wadden-house*, therein declaring, that he would take in good part from him, whatsoever he did or was done for the English Fathers of the Society. Father *Clare* Rector of the said House going about those Affairs at *London*, found an easy access to the King and as easily obtained his Desires. He was forbid to kneel

and

and kiss the King's Hand (as the manner and custom is) by the K. himself, saying, *Once indeed your Reverence kissed my Hand; but had I then known you were a Priest, I should rather have kneeled and kissed your Reverences hand.*

After the Business was ended, in a familiar Discourse, the K. declared to this Father, *That he would either Convert England, or die a Martyr; and that he had rather die to morrow, that Conversion wrought, than reign fifty Years without that in Happiness and Prosperity.*

Lastly, He called himself a *Son of the Society*, the Welfare of which, he said, he as much rejoiced at as his own: And it can scarce be said how joyful he shewed himself when it was told him, That he was made partaker, by the most Reverend Father N. of all the Merits of the Society; of which number he would declare one of his Confessors: Some report R. P. the Provincial will be the person, but whom he designs is not yet known. Many do think an Archbishoprick will be bestowed on Father Edmund Perre, (chiefly beloved) very many a Cardinals Cap, to whom, (within this Month or two) that whole part of the K. Palace is granted, in which the K. when he was Duke of York used to reside; where you may see I know not how many Courtiers daily attending to speak with his Eminency, (for so they are said to call him) upon whose Counsel, and also that of several Catholick Peers, highly preferred in the Kingdom, the K. greatly relies, which way he may promote the Faith without violence. Not long since some Catholick Peers did object to the K. that he made too much haste to establish the Faith, to whom he answered, *I growing old, must make great steps, otherwise, if I should die, I shall leave you worse than I found you.* Then they asking him, why therefore was he not more solicitous for the conversion of his Daughters, Heirs of the Kingdom? He answered, *God will take care for an Heir; leave my Daughters for me to Convert; do you by your example reduce those that are under me, and others to the Faith.* In most Provinces he hath preferred Catholicks; and in a short time we shall have the same Justices of the Peace (as they are called) in them all. At Oxford we hope Matters go very well; one of our Divines is always Resident therein; a publick Catholick Chappel of the Vice-Chancellor's, who hath drawn some Students to the Faith. The Bishop of Oxford seems very much to favour the Catholick

Cause: He proposed in Council, Whether it was not expedient, that at least one Colledg in *Oxford* should be allowed Catholicks, that they might not be forced to be at so much Charges, by going beyond Seas to Study? What Answer was given, is not yet known. The same Bishop inviting two of our Noblemen, with others of the Nobility, to a Banquet, drank the King's Health to an Heretical Baron there, wishing a happy Success to all his Affairs; and he added, That the Faith of Protestants in *England*, seemed to him to be little better than that of *Buda* was before it was taken; and that they were for the most part mere Atheists who defended it. Many do embrace the Faith, and four of the chiefest Earls have lately possessed it publicly.

The Reverend Father, *Alexander Regnes*, Nephew to our Provincial, to whom is committed the Care of the Chappel of the Ambassador of the most Serene Elector Palatine, is whole days busied in resolving and shewing the Doubts or Questions of Hereticks, concerning their Faith, of which number you may see two or three continually walking before the Doors of the Chappel, disputing about Matters of Faith amongst themselves.

Prince *George*, we can have nothing certain what Faith he intends to make profession of.

We have a good while begun to get footing in *England*. We teach Humanity at *Lincoln*, *Normich*, and *York*. At *Warwick* we have a publick Chappel, secured from all Injuries by the King's Souldiers. We have also bought some Houses of the City of *Wigorn* in the Province of *Lancaster*. The Catholick Cause very much increaseth. In some Catholick Churches, upon Holy Days above 1500 are always numbred present at the Sermon. At *London*, likewise, things succeed no worse. Every Holy Day, at preaching, People so frequent, that many of the Chappels cannot contain them. Two of ours, *Darmes* and *Bersall* do constantly say Mass before the King and Queen, Father *Edmund Newil* before the Queen Dowager, Father *Alexander Regnes* in the Chappel of the Ambassador aforesaid, others in other places. Many Houses are bought for the Colledg in the *Savoy* (as they call it) nigh *Somerfet-house*, *London*, the Palace of the Queen Dowager, to the value of about eight or ten thousand *Florins*, in making of which, after the Form of a Colledg,

Colledg, they labour very hard that the Schools may be opened before *Easter*.

In *Ireland* shortly there will be a Catholick Parliament, seeing no other can satisfy the King's Will to Establish the Catholick Cause there. In the Month of *February*, for certain, the King hath designed to call a Parliament at *London*: 1. That by a Universal Decree, the Catholick Peers may be admitted into the Upper House. 2. That the Oath or Test may be annulled. 3. Which is the best or top of all, That all Penal Laws made against Catholicks, may be Abrogated; which that he may more surely obtain, he desires every one to take notice, that he hath certainly determined to dismiss any from all profitable Employments under him, who do not strenuously endeavour the obtaining those things; also that he will Dissolve the Parliament: with which Decree some Hereticks being affrighted, came to a certain Peer to consult him what was best to be done: to whom he said, the Kings pleasure is sufficiently made known to us; what he hath once said, he will most certainly do: if you love your selves, you must submit your selves to the Kings Will. There are great preparations for War at *London*, and a Squadron of many Ships of War are to be fitted out against a time appointed; what they are designed for is not certain. The *Hollanders* greatly fear they are against them, and therefore begin to prepare themselves. Time will discover more.

Liept, 2. Feb. 1698.

H. A Letter from the Reverend Father Petre, Jesuit, Almoner to the King of England, written to the Reverend Father la Cheese, Confessor to the most Christian King, touching the present Affairs of ENGLAND.

Translated from the French.

Most Reverend Father,

IF I have fail'd, for the last few days, to observe your Order, it was not from want of Affection, but: Health; that occasion'd the neglect; and for which I shall endeavour to make amends by the length of this. I shall begin where my former left off, and shall tell you, That since the appearing of a Letter in this Town, written by the Prince's Minister of *Holland*, which declares the Intentions of the Prince and Princeess of *Orange*, relating to the Repealing the *Test*, or to speak more properly, their Aversion to it: This Letter has produc'd very ill Effects among the Hereticks; whom, at the return of some of our Fathers from those Parts, we had perswaded, that the Prince would comply with every thing relating to the *Test* that the King should propose to the next Parliament, in case he should call one; to which I do not find his Majesty much inclin'd. But the coming of this Letter (of which I have inclos'd a Copy) has serv'd for nothing but to encourage the Obstinate in their aversion to that Matter. The Queen, as well as my self, were of Opinion, against the sending of any such Letter to the *Hague* upon that Subject, but rather that some Person able to discourse and perswade, should have been sent thither: for all such Letters, when they are not grateful, produce bad Effects. That which is spoken Face to Face, is not so easily divulg'd, nor any thing discover'd

ver'd to the People, but what we have a mind the Vulgar should know: And, I believe, your Reverence will concur with me in this Opinion. This Letter has extremely provok'd the King; who is of a temper not to bear a refusal, and who has not been us'd to have his Will contradicted: And, I verily believe, this very affront has hastned his Resolution of recalling the *English* Regiments in *Holland*. I shew'd his Majesty that part of your Letter, that relates to the Opinion of his *Most Christian Majesty*, upon this Subject, which his Majesty well approves of. We are interested to know the Success of this Affair, and what Answer the States will give. The King changes as many Heretick Officers as he can, to put Catholicks in their places; but the Misfortune is, that here we want Catholick Officers to supply them: And therefore, if you know any such of our Nation in *France*, you would do the King a pleasure to perswade them to come over, and they shall be certain of Employments, either in the old Troops, or the New that are speedily to be rais'd; for which, by this my Letter, I pass my Word.

Our Fathers are continually employ'd to convert the Officers; but their Obstinacy is so great, that for one that turns, there are five that had rather quit their Commands. And there are so many Malecontents, whose Party is already but too great, the King has need of all his Prudence and Temper to manage this great Affair, and bring it to that Perfection we hope to see it in ere long. All that I can assure you is, That here shall be no neglect in the Queen, who labours night and day with unexpressible Diligence for the propitiation of the Faith, and with the Zeal of a holy Princess. The Queen Dowager is not so earnest, and Fear makes her resolve to retire into *Portugal*, to pass the remainder of her days in Devotion: she has already ask'd the King leave, who has not only granted it, but also promised that she should have her Pension punctually paid; and that during her Life, her Servants that she leaves behind her, shall have the same Wages, as if they were in waiting. She stays but for a proper Season to imbarke for *Lisbon*, and to live there free from all Stories.

As to the Queen's being with Child, that great Concern goes as well as we could with, notwithstanding all the Satyrical Discourses of the Hereticks, who content themselves to vent

vent their Poysen in Libels, which by night they disperse in the Street, or fix upon the Walls. There was one lately found upon a Pillar of a Church, that imported, That such a day Thanks should be given GOD for the Queen's being great with a Cushion. If one of these Pasquil-makers could be discovered, he would but have an ill time on't, and should be made to take his last Farewel at Tyburn.

You will agree with me (most Reverend Father) that we have done a great thing, by introducing Mrs. *Celier* to the Queen: this Woman is totally devoted to our Society, and zealous for the Catholick Religion. I will send you an account of the progress of this Affair, and will use the Cypher you sent me, which I think very admirable. I can send you nothing certain of the Prince and Princess of *Denmark*; he is a Prince with whom I cannot discourse about Religion; *Luther* was never more earnest than this Prince. It is for this reason that the King (who does not love to be denied) never yet press'd him in that matter, his Majesty thinking it necessary that the Fathers should first prepare things, before he undertake to speak to him. But this Prince, as all of his Nation, has naturally an Aversion to our Society; and this Antipathy does much obstruct the progress of our Affairs; and it would be unreasonable to complain hereof to the King, at present to trouble him, tho he has an intire Confidence in us, and looks upon our Fathers, as the Apostles of this Land. As for *Ireland*, that Country is already all Catholick; yea, all the Militia are so. The Vice-Roy merits great Praise; we may give him this Honour, That he is a Son worthy our Society; and I hope will participate of the Merits of it. He informs me, he has just writ to your Reverence of these matters, how things go there. Some Catholick Regiments from those parts will speedily be sent for over for the King's Guards; his Majesty being resolv'd to trust them, rather than others; and may do it better in case of any popular Commotion, against which we ought to secure our selves the best we can. His Majesty does us the Honour to visit our Colledg often, and is most pleas'd when we present him some new Convert-Scholars, whom he encourages with his gracious Promises. I have not Expression sufficient to let you know with what Devotion his Majesty communicated the last Holy-days; and a Heretick

Heretick cannot better make his Court to him, than by turning to the Catholick Faith. He desires that all the Religions, of what Order soever they be, make open Profession as he does, not only of the Catholick Religion, but also of their Order; not at all approving that Priests, or Religious should conceal themselves out of Fear; and he has told them, That he would have them wear the Habit of a Religious; and that he will take care to defend them from Affronts. And the People are already accustomed to it; and we begin to celebrate Funerals with the same Ceremony as in *France*; but it is almost a Miracle to see that no body speaks one word against it, no not so much as the Ministers in their Pulpits; in so good order has the King managed these Matters. Many *English* Hereticks resort often to our Sermons; and I have often recommended to our Fathers to preach now in the beginning, as little as they can of the Controversy, because that provokes; but to represent to them the Beauty and Antiquity of the Catholick Religion, that they may be convinc'd, that all that has been said and preach'd to them, and their own Reflections concerning it, have been all Scandal: For I find (as the Apostle says) they must be nourished with Milk, not being able to bear strong Meat. Many have desir'd me to give them some of our Prayers, and even the holy Mass in *English*: which I mean to do, to satisfy the meanest sort, of which the greatest part do not understand *Latin*, but not to take away from the new Converts their Testaments, which is a matter of moment; and, that we may not disgust them at the beginning, we must permit them to have them for a time, till they part with them of themselves. I had need of *C. H's* Counsel upon this Point, and not in this only, but also in a great many other matters that daily press me: for you may easily believe, that I have often more business than I can well dispatch; and we must work with so much Circumspection and Precaution, that I have often need of your Paternity's wise Counsel. But the Lord and the good Virgin do strengthen me as there is occasion.

The Bishop of *Oxon* has not yet declar'd himself openly; the great Obstacle is his Wife, whom he cannot rid himself of: his design being to continue Bishop, and only change Communion; as it is not doubted but the King will permit, and our holy

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Father

Father confirm : tho I do not see how he can be farther useful to us in the Religion in which he is, because he is suspected, and of no esteem among the Hereticks of the *English* Church : nor do I see that the Example of his Conversion is like to draw many others after him, because he declar'd himself so suddenly. If he had believ'd my Counsel, which was to temporize for some longer time, he would have done better ; but it is his Temper, or rather Zeal that hurried him on. There are two other Prelates that will do no less than he ; but they hold off alike, to see how they may be serviceable to the Propagation, and produce more Fruits, while they continue undiscover'd.

That which does us most harm with the Lords and great Men, is the apprehension of a Heretick Successor : For (as a Lord told me lately) *assure me of a Catholick Successor, and I will assure you, I and my Family will be so too.* To this happy purpose, the Queen's happy Delivery will be of very great moment. Our zealous Catholicks do already lay two to one that it will be a Prince : God does nothing by halves ; and ever day Masses are said upon this very occasion.

I have gain'd a very great point, in perswading the King to place our Fathers in *Madalen-Colledg* in *Oxon* ; who will be able to tutor the young Scholars in the Roman Catholick Religion. I rely much on Father *Thomas Fairfax*, to whom I have given necessary Instructions how to govern himself with the Heretick People ; and to take care in the beginning, that he speak not to them any thing that may terrify. And, as I tell you, a Religious has need here of great Prudence at this time, that the King may hear of no Complaints that may displease him ; and therefore we dare not at present, do all we shall be able, and bound to do hereafter, for fear of too much haring the *Mobile*.

I like well that Father *Hales* goes to stay some time at the *Hague incognito*, on pretence of soliciting for a Place, which is not soon to be got there ; and I have given him a Letter to some of that Court : Father *Smith* that is there now, by reason of his great Age, not being able to do all he ought and wishes to do, and is also too well known there. And I shall often impart to you what I shall learn from those Quarters : from whence I shall weekly receive something of moment, so long

long as the two Courts are in so bad Intelligence together, as at present they are. For my-part, to speak freely on this Topic to your Reverend Fatherhood, I am of opinion, we should rather endeavour to moderate, than aggravate the Difference between them; tho I know I do not in this matter altogether concur with the Sense of the *French* Ambassadour, who considers only his Master's Interest: But we are necessitated to take other Measures, and such as perhaps may not always agree with the Interest of *France* in this matter.

And I think aggravating this Breach at present, to be also prejudicial to the Catholick Religion it self. The great Design we have so long aimed at, is applying to the King of *France* to take from the Hereticks all hopes of a Head, or any other Protection, than what they must expect from their own King; whereby they finding themselves expos'd to his Pleasure, will the more readily subscribe to his Will. But this misunderstanding between us, will occasion an opportunity to the Hereticks to set up the Prince of *Orange* for their Chief: And let me assure you not to deceive your selves, The Religious of *England*, as well as the Presbyterians themselves, regard the Prince of *Orange* as their *Moses*; and his Party is already so powerful in both these Kingdoms, that it will appear terrible to any thinking Person, should things come to extremity; as may never happen, if matters are not push'd on too far, but managed with Moderation. And I desire therefore, with great deference to you better Judgment, that this matter might be hinted to his *Most Christian Majesty*, as opportunity shall serve, and am sensible it must be done with very great caution.

I can tell you nothing at present concerning the certainty of calling a Parliament; it requires so many things to be consider'd of, and measures to be taken, that his Majesty ought to be well assur'd of the success, before he convenes them together. I am not of opinion with many other Catholicks, who say, That by calling them the King hazards nothing; for, if they will not answer his Ends, he need only prorogue them, as is usually done: But it is my Opinion, and the Sense of many others, That his Majesty hazards much; for if it should unfortunately happen, that they should in their Assembly refuse to comply with his Majesty's Desires, it may be

long enough ere he compass his Ends by way of a Parliament, and perhaps never: and then there rests no Expedient, or other Means but by Violence, to execute the Orders of his secret Council, which must be suppos'd by his Army; who, upon a pretence of Incamping, may be called together with the less Jealousie or Suspicion. So, you may see (most Reverend Father) that we do not want work in these Quarters; and I must be supported by your Prayers, which I beg of you, and from all those of our Society.

His Majesty is so desirous that things may be done in order, and upon a sure Fund, so as to be the more lasting, that he makes great application to the Shires and Corporations, to get such Persons chosen for the Parliament, as may be favourable to his Ends, of which he may be sure, before they come to debate: And the King will make them promise so firmly, and exact such Instruments from them in writing, that they shall not be able to go back, unless they will thereby draw upon themselves his Majesty's utmost Displeasure, and make them feel the weight of his Resentment. And I have here inclos'd some Effects of his Majesty's Endeavours in this matter, which is an Address which the Mayor, Sheriffs and Burgeses of *New-Castle* in the County of *Stafford*, have presented to the King [see the *Gazette*, where this Corporation, as well as *Glocester* and *Teuxbury*, and others, in their Addresses, promise to chuse such Members as shall comply with his Majesty's Desires.] If all Towns were in as perfect Obedience as these, we should certainly have a Parliament call'd, which the Catholicks and Nonconformists expect with great Impatience. But since this cannot be said of many of them, the King's secret Council think good to wait for the Queen's Delivery, that they may see a Successor, who may have need of the whole Protection of the *Most Christian King* to support him, and maintain his Rights. And, by the Grace of God, we hope, that that Prince, treading in his Father's Steps, may prove a worthy Son of our Society, like his Father, who thinks it no Dishonour to be so call'd.

As to other things (most Reverend Father) our Fathers with me, as well as generally all the Catholicks, with what grief do we hear of the Disunion that arises between his

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Holiness and the *Most Christian King*! How does my Head, in imitation of the Prophet's, become a Spring of Tears to lament night and day the Schism that I foresee coming into the Church! Is it possible that our holy Society should not stand in the Breach, and prevent the Mischiefs that this difference may occasion in the Church? And that no body can reconcile *Levi* and *Judah*, the Priesthood and the Scepter, the Father and the Son, the eldest Son of the Church with the Vicar of Christ upon Earth? And what a Desolation, and what Advantage to the Hereticks must this occasion? They begin already to bid us convert the Children of the Family, before we begin to convert Strangers. And I must with grief confess, they have but too much reason for what they say; and if there does not come some present Assistance from above, I foresee this Affair will occasion great Prejudices in the North. Nor have we any hope that his *British Majesty* will interpose herein openly, he receiving so little Satisfaction from his Holiness in some Demands made by his Ambassadour at *Rome*, which (morally speaking) ought not to have been denied so great a King, who first made this step (which his Predecessors for a long time were not willing to undertake) in sending his Ambassadour of Obedience to *Rome*. And yet for all this, our holy Father had not any particular Consideration of this Submission and Filial Obedience: so that I dare not mention this matter by way of Discourse, daily expecting that of himself he will be pleased to make some Proposal therein. I doubt not (Reverend Father) of your constant Endeavour to accommodate this matter, thereby to take away from the Hereticks, especially the *Hugonots of France*, this occasion to laugh and deride us: and we should think the Change much for the worse, if, instead of the *French King's* going to *Geneva*, he should march to *Rome*: What may not all this come to? Especially since the *Marquess de Lavardin* has been so passionate in his Discourse to the Cardinal-Chancellor, as to call him Impertinent; and so far to forget his Duty and Reverence toward our Holy Father, the Pope himself, as to say he Doted: as the Hereticks do confidently discourse in these parts. I have wished some Masses of the Holy Ghost to be said, That God would please to inspire the discontented Parties with a Spirit of Peace and Concord. You did acquaint me some time since,

That

That Madam *Maintenon*, did take upon her the Title of *Daughter of the Society*; by virtue whereof, you may command her, by virtue of Obedience, to use her Credit and Eloquence with the King, to incline him to an Accommodation in this matter. In the mean time, I hear that at *Rome*, many eminent Persons endeavour the same with his Holiness, who says, He cannot, nor ought not to recede from what he has done; otherwise it were in effect to submit to the Articles made in *France* by the Clergy in 1682, and consequently of too great moment to recant: and therefore Submission ought to come from the Son, and not from the Father. I recommend my self (Reverend Father!) to your Prayers and Blessing, desiring you would continue to assist me with your Salutal Counsels, and rest for ever.

St. James's, Feb. 9.

Tours, &c.

III. *The Answer of the Reverend Father la Chese, Confessor to the Most Christian King, to a Letter of the Reverend Father Petre, Jesuit, and Great Almoner to the King of England, upon the Method or Rule he must observe with His Majesty, for the Conversion of His Protestant Subjects.*

Most Reverend Father,

When I compare the Method of the *French Court* (which declares against all Heresies) with the Policy of other Princes, who had the same Design in former Ages; I find so great a difference, that all that passes now a days in the King's Council is an impenetrable Mystery: and the Eyes of all *Europe* are opened to see what happens; but cannot discover the Cause.

When

When *Francis* the First, and *Henry* the Second his Son, undertook to ruine the Reformation, they had to struggle with a Party which was but beginning and weak, and destitute of Help; and consequently easier to be overcome.

In the time of *Francis* the Second, and *Charles* the Ninth, a Family was seen advanc'd to the Throne by the Ruine of the Protestants who were for the House of *Bourbon*.

In this last Reign many Massacres hapned, and several Millions of Hereticks have been sacrificed, but it answer'd other-ways: and his Majesty has shew'd (by the peace and mild ways he uses) that he abhors shedding of Blood; from which you must perswade his *Britannick* Majesty, who naturally is inclin'd to Roughness, and a kind of Boldness, which will make him hazard all, if he does not politickly manage it; as I hinted in my last, when I mentioned my Lord Chancellor.

Most Reverend Father, to satisfy the desire I have to shew you by my Letters the Choice you ought to make of such Persons fit to stir up, I will in few words (since you desire) inform you of the Genius of the People of our Court, of their Inclinations, and which of them we make use of; that by a Parallel which you will make between them and your *English* Lords, you may learn to know them.

Therefore I shall begin with the Chief: I mean our Great Monarch. It is certain he is naturally good, and loves not to do Evil, unless desired to do it. This being so, I may say, he never would have undertaken the Conversion of his Subjects, without the Clergy of *France*, and without our Societies Correspondence abroad. He is a Prince enlightned; who very well observes, that what we put him upon, is contrary to his Interest, and that nothing is more opposite to his Great Designs, and his Glory; he aiming to be the Terror of all *Europe*. The vast number of Malecontents he has caused in his Kingdom, forces him in time of Peace to keep three times more Forces, than his Ancestors did in the greatest Domestic and Foreign Wars: which cannot be done without a prodigious Expence.

The Peoples Fears also begin to lessen, as to his aspiring to a Universal Monarchy: and they may assure themselves he has left those Thoughts; nothing being more opposite to his Designs,

Designs, than the Method we enjoyn him. His Candor, Boldness, and Toleration to the Hereticks, would undoubtedly have opened the Doors of the Low Countries, Palatinate, and all other States on the Rhine, and even of Switzerland; whereas things are at present so alter'd, that we see the *Hollanders* free from any fear of danger; the *Switzers* and City of *Geneva*, resolv'd to lose the last drop of their Blood in their Defence; Besides, some Diversion we may expect from this Empire, in case we cannot hinder a Peace with the *Turks*, which ought to hasten his *Britannick* Majesty, while he can be assur'd of Succors from the most Christian King.

Sir, his Majesty's Brother is always the same; I mean, takes no notice of what passes at Court. It has sometimes happen'd, that the King's Brothers have a deal to say, as to be noted in the State; but this we may be assur'd will never do any thing to stain the Glory of his Submission and Obedience. And is willing to lend a helping hand for the Destruction of the Hereticks, which appears by the Instances he makes to his Majesty, who now has promised him to cause his Troops to enter into the *Palatinate* the next Month.

The *Dauphin* is passionately given up to Hunting, and little regards the Conversion of Souls; and it does not seem easy to make him penetrate into Business of Moment; and therefore we do not care to consult him which way, and how the Hereticks ought to be treated. He openly laughs at us, and flights all the Designs, of which the King his Father makes great account. The *Dauphiness* is extremely witty, and is, without doubt, uneasy to shew it in other Matters besides Complements of Conversation. She has given me a Letter for the Queen of *England*, wherein after her expression of the part she bears of the News of her Majesty's being with Child, she gives her several Advices about the Conversion of her Subjects.

Most Reverend Father, She is undoubtedly born a great Enemy to the Protestants, and has promoted all she could with his Majesty, in all that has been done, to hasten their Ruin; especially having been bred in a Court of our Society, and of a House whose hatred against the Protestant Religion is Hereditary, because she has been raised up by the Ruin of the *German* Protestant Princes, especially that of the *Palatinate*. But the

the King having caused her to come to make Heirs to the Crown, she answers expectation to the utmost.

Monsieur *Louvois* is a Man who very much observes his Duty, which he performs to admiration ; and to whom we must acknowledg *France* owes part of the Glory it has hitherto gained, both in regard of its Conquests, as also the Conversion of Hereticks ; to which latter I may say, he has contributed as much as the King : he has already shewed himself Pierce, Wrathful, and Hardhearted in his Actions towards them ; though he is not naturally inclin'd to Cruelty, nor to harass the People. His Brother, the Arch-bishop of *Rheims*, has Ways which do not much differ from those of his Soul ; and all the difference I find between them is, That the Arch-bishop loves his own Glory, as much as Monsieur *de Louvois* loves that of his Majesty. He is his own Idol ; and give him but Inference, and you may obtain any thing. Honour is welcome to him, let it come which way it will. The least Thing provokes his Prelate ; and he will not yield any thing derogatory to his Paternity. He will seem Learned ; he will seem a great *Theologian*, and will seem to be a good Bishop, and to have a great care of his Diocese ; and would heretofore seem a great Preacher. I have hinted in my last, the Reasons why I cannot altogether like him ; which are needless to repeat.

The Arch-bishop of *Paris* is always the same, I mean, a gallant Man ; whose present Conversation is charming, and loves Pleasures, but cannot bear any thing that grieves or gives trouble, though he is always a great Enemy of the *Jansenists*, which he lately intimated to Cardinal *Camus*. He is always with me in the Council of Conscience, and agrees very well with our Society, laying mostly to Heart the Conversion of the Protestants of the three Kingdoms. He also makes very good Observations and Designs, to give some Advice to your reverence, which I shall convey to you. I do sometimes impart to him what you write to me.

My Lord *Kingston* has embrac'd our good Party : I was present when he Abjur'd in the Church of *St. Denis* ; I will give the Circumstances some other time.

You promised to send me the Names of all Heretick Officers who are in his Majesty's Troops ; that much imports me, and

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you

You shall not want good Catholick Officers to fill up their places. I have drawn a List of them who are to pass into *England*, and his most Christian Majesty approves thereof: Pray observe what I hinted to you in my last, on the Subject of the Visits, which our Fathers must give to the Chief Lords, Members of the next Parliament; those Reverend Fathers who are to perform that Duty, must be middle-aged, with a lively Countenance, and fit to perswade. I also advised you in some of my other Letters, how the Bishop of *Oxford* ought to behave himself, by writing incessantly, and to insinuate into the People the putting down the *Test*; and at the same time calm the Storm, which the Letter of Pentionary *Fagel* has raised. And his Majesty must continue to make vigorous Prohibitions to all Booksellers in *London*, not to print any Answers; as well to put a stop to the Insolency of Heretick Authors, as also to hinder the People from reading them.

In short, you intimate to me, That his Majesty will follow our Advice: It's the quickest way, and I cannot find a better, or fitter, to dispossess his Subjects from such Impressions as they have received. His Majesty must also, by the same Declaration, profess in Conscience, that (if complied with) he will not only keep his Word, to maintain and protect the Church of *England*; but will also confirm his Promises by such Laws, as the Protestants shall be contented with. This is the true Politick way; for by his granting all, they cannot but consent to something.

His most Christian Majesty has with great success experienced this Maxim: And though he had not to struggle with Penal Laws and Tests, yet he found it convenient to make large Promises, by many Declarations; for, since we must dissemble, you must endeavour all you can to perswade the King, it is the only Method to effect his Design.

I did also in my last, give you a hint of its Importance, as well as the ways you must take to insinuate your selves dexterously with the King, to gain his good Will.

I know not whether you have observed what passed in *England* some Years since; I will recite it, because Examples instruct much.

One of our Assisting Fathers of that Kingdom, (which was Father *Parsons*) having written a Book against the Succession of the King of *Scots* to the Realm of *England*. Father *Creighton*, who was also of our Society, and upheld by many of our Party, defended the Cause of that King, in a Book Intituled, *The Reasons of the King of Scots, against the Book of Father Parsons* : And though they seem'd divided, yet they understood one another very well; this being practis'd by order of our General, to the end, that if the House of *Scotland* were Excluded, they might shew him who had the Government, the Book of Father *Parsons*; and on the other Hand, if the King happened to be restored to the Throne, they might obtain his good Will, by shewing him the Works of Father *Chreighton* : So that which way soever the Medal turn'd, it still prov'd to the advantage of our Society.

Not to digress from our Subject, I must desire you to read the English Book of Father *Parsons*, Intituled, *The Reform of England*; where, after his blaming of Cardinal *Pool*, and made some observations of Faults in the Council of *Trent*, he finally concludes, That suppose *England* should return (as we hope) to the Catholick Faith in this Reign, he would reduce it to the State of the Primitive Church : And to that end all the Ecclesiastical Revenue ought to be used in common, and the Management thereof committed to the care of Seven Wise Men, drawn out of our Society, to be disposed of by them as they should think fit. Moreover, he would have all the Religious Orders forbidden on Religious Penalties, not to return into the Three Kingdoms, without leave of those Seven Wise Men; to the end it might be granted only to such as live on Alms. These Reflections seem to me very judicious, and very suitable to the present State of *England*.

The same Father *Parsons* adds, That when *England* is reduced to the True Faith, the Pope must not expect, at least for five Years, to reap any benefit of the Ecclesiastical Revenue; but must leave the whole in the hands of those Seven Wise Men, who will manage the same to the Benefit and Advancement of the Church.

The Court goes this day for *Marli*, to take the Divertisements which are there prepared : I hope to accompany the

King, and will entertain him about all Business; and accordingly as he likes what you hint to me in your Letter, I shall give you notice.

I have acquainted him with his *Britannick* Majesty's Design of building a Citadel near *Whitehal*; Monsieur *Vauban*, our Engineer, was present: After some Discourse on the Importance of the Subject, his Majesty told Monsieur *Vauban*, that he thought it convenient he should make a Model of the Design, and that he should on purpose go over into *England* to see the Ground.

I have done all I could to suspend the Designs of our Great Monarch, who is always angry against the Holy Father; both Parties are stubborn: the King's natural Inclination is, to have all yield to him; and the Pope's Resolution is unalterable.

All our Fathers most humbly salute your Reverence. Father *Roine Ville* acts wonderfully about *Nismes* amongst the New Converts, who still meet, notwithstanding the Danger they expose themselves to.

I daily expect News from the Frontiers of the Empire, which I shall impart to your Reverence, and am with the greatest Respect,

Paris, March 7.
1688.

Yours, &c.

Popish

*Popish Treaties not to be rely'd on: In a Letter from
a Gentleman at York, to his Friend in the Prince of
ORANGE's Camp. Addressed to all Members
of the next Parliament.*

THE Credulity and Superstition of Mankind hath given great Opportunities and Advantages to cunning *Knaves* to spread their Nets, and lay their Traps in order to catch easie and unwary Creatures; these being led on by Ignorance or Stupidity, they by Pride or Ambition, or else a Vile and Mercenary Principle; therefore seeing we are in this State of Corruption, bred up to believe Contradictions and Impossibilities, led by the Nose with every State *Mountebank*, and *Monkish Jugler*, moved like *Puppets* by Strings and Wires; it seems high time to vindicate Human Nature, and to free her from these Shackles laid upon her in the very Cradle; for *Man* (who ought to be a Free and Rational *Animal*) in his present State is only an *Engine* and *Machine*, contriv'd for the Vanity and Luxury of *Priests* and *Tyrants*, who claim to themselves, and seem to monopolize the Divine *Stamp*, tho we are all made of the same Materials, by the same Tools, and in the same Mould, equal by Nature, met together and link'd in Societies by mutual Contracts, plac'd by turns one above another, and entrusted for some time with the Power of executing our own Laws, and all by general consent for the Publick Good of the whole *Community*; this is the genuine Shape and Figure of Primitive and Sound Government, not distemper'd and fatally infected with the monstrous *Excesses* of Arbitrary Power in one sing'e *Member* above all the Laws of the whole; *Infalibility*, Divine *Right*, &c. started by *Knaves* and *Sycophants*, believ'd by *Fools*, who scarce ever heard of the *Greek* and *Roman* Histories, and never read their own. I shall therefore give some Examples (out of an infinite number) of People ruin'd and utterly destroy'd by their

their easie Credulity, and good Nature, matter of Fact being a stronger Proof, and better Rule to steer Mankind, than the empty Notions of the *Schools*, invented only to perplex and confound our Ratiocination, lest it should discover the naked Truth of things. The present Letter will confine it self only to Publick Promises, Oaths, and Solemn Contracts, scandalously violated by the *Roman Catholicks*, not with *Heathens* and *Hereticks* only, but amongst themselves: We will begin with the more remote Countries.

The *Spaniards* and *Portugueses* have acted so treacherously with the *Africans*, and the Natives of both *Indies*, that the Cruelty of the History would be incredible, if it was not related by their own Historians; their Leagues and Treaties (the most sacred Bonds under Heaven) were soon neglected, and the Spirit of their Religion broke all before it; how many Millions of those innocent Creatures were murder'd in cold Blood, and for Pastime sake, with all the variety of Torments that the Devil could inspire into them; how soon were the vast Regions of *Mexico*, *New Spain*, *Peru*, *Hispaniola*, *Brasile*, &c. depopulated, above twenty Millions of the poor harmless Inhabitants being put to death in full Peace, and they the best natur'd People in the World, and very ingenious; tho they may seem Savages to a sort of Men, who think all *Barbarians* that differ from them in Habits, Manners, Customs, Diet, Religion, Language, &c. not considering that all wise Nature hath contriv'd a different Scene of things for various Climates; Nay, such is the Inhumanity of these *Catholick Nations* here at home, that they will frequently bring Strangers (settled amongst them by the Laws of Commerce) and their own fellow-Subjects into the *Inquisition*, especially if they are Rich, upon a pretence of some Heretical Opinion, tho they themselves at first protect and license the Opinion; as in the case of *Molina*, whose Book had receiv'd an *Imprimatur* from most of the *Inquisitors* of *Spain* and *Italy*, and even from the Infalible Head of the Church, yet afterwards it was burnt, and he himself together with many of his Followers miserably tortur'd; the *Pope* scarce escaping the Punishment. The Generous *Marshal Schomberg* (driven out of *France* for his great Services) who had won many Battels for the *Portugueses*; and sav'd their Country, could not be suffer'd to end his Old

Age amongst them, but was forc'd in the midst of Winter to commit himself to the Sea, and fly to an inhospitable Shoar.

The present *French King* renounced all his Pretences on *Flanders*, concluded the *Pyrenean Treaty*, and swore at the Altar not to meddle with that Country : but how well he observ'd that Sacred Covenant, *Baron D'Isola* will best inform you in his *Bouclier d'Etat*, for which he was thought to be poison'd. Neither hath the *French Monarch* been contented to break all Faith and Measures with the *Spaniard*, but he hath gone about to deceive and ruine the *Pope*, *Emperour*, and all the *Princes* and *Electors* of the Empire, the Prince of *Orange*, Duke of *Lorrain*, the *Switzers*, the *Dutch*, and the *English*; and not only these his Neighbours and Allies, but his own Protestant Subjects, who had all the Security that Solemn *Edicts*, *Oaths* and *Promises* could afford them, besides many other Obligations upon the Crown for bringing the King to the Throne; yet all of a sudden they found themselves oppress'd and destroy'd by his Apostolical *Dragoons*, their Temples razed, their Wives and Children taken away, their Goods and Estates confiscated, themselves cast into Prisons, sent to the Gallies, and often shot at like Birds : His seising of *Lorrain*, *France*, *Compte*, *Alsace*, *Strasburgh*, *Luxemburgh*, the Principality of *Orange*, the County of *Avignon*, *Philipsbourg*, the whole *Palatinate*, the Electorates of *Mentz*, *Treves*, and *Cologne*, his building of Citadelles in the Empire and in *Italy*, &c. are so contradictory to National Agreements, and Publick Treaties, that scarce a *Jesuit* or a *French-man* can have Impudence enough to defend them; a *Banditto*, a *Pyrate*, or a *Pick-pocket* would be asham'd of such Actions; and an ordinary Man would be hang'd for a Crime a Million times less. His seising upon *Hudson's Bay*, and leading the *English* into Slavery; the *French* Treachery in the Engagement at Sea between us and the *Dutch*, their frequent seizing of our Ships, are light things, not worthy our Resentment, being under the Conduct of a *Monsieur* whom the World so justly vilifies and despises.

The *Emperour* can have no good Pretence to condemn the King of *France*, or any other *Catholick Prince* for breach of Common Faith and Honesty, since he himself hath plaid the same Game with his Protestant Subjects, inviting some of the

Chief

Chief of the *Hungarian Nobility* to *Vienna*, under the colour of Treaty and Friendship, and then cutting off their Heads, seizing their Estates and Properties, destroying their Pastors and Churches, and extirpating the whole Reform'd Religion, after he had promis'd and stipulated to protect and give them the Liberty of their Consciences. The *Parisian Massacres* were carried on and executed under a Mask of Friendship, all the principal *Protestants* of *France* being invited to the Healing-Marriage, to revel and carouse, were barbarously butcher'd in their Beds at the Toll of a Bell, when they dream'd they sl p securely. The *Irish Massacre* of above 200000 *Protestants* was no less treacherous, it was a Copy of the *Spanish Cruelty* in the *West Indies*, to whom the *Irish* are compar'd by Historians for their Idleness and Inhumanity, tho not for their Wit.

The Persecutions of the *Protestants* in the Vallies of *Piedmont*, are another instance of *Popish Immanity* and *Baseness*; they were under the common shelter of publick Pactions and Treaties, and had been solemnly own'd by the *Dukes of Savoy*, to be the most Loyal and the most Courageous of their Subjects. The present *Duke*, who undertook this last Persecution, was not content to destroy them with his own Troops, but call'd in the *French* to assist at the Comedy, to shoot them off the Rocks, to hunt them over the *Alps*, and to sell the strongest of them to the *Gallies*, that the very *Turkish Slaves* themselves might deride and insult over them. *Catholicks*, who have not Power or Opportunity to execute the same things, seem to condemn the Conduct in Publick, but sing *Te Deum* in Private, and as soon as ever they have got a sufficient Force, commit the like Barbarities, so essential to their Religion, that all the Instinct of Nature cannot separate them. The Holy Father at *Rome* (tho he sets up for a moderate and merciful Pontificate) order'd *Te Deum* to be sung up and down, for the extirpation of Heresy out of *France* and *Piedmont*; and our English *Catholicks* have given us (as their Army and Interest encreas'd) several Proofs how well they can juggle and disguise themselves; setting up Courts of Inquisition, turning *Protestants* out of all Employ, and even out of their Freeholds, dispensing with Laws, Ravishing Charters, packing Corporations, &c. and all under a notion of Liberty or a Divine Right;

Right; they with their Accomplices defended illegal Declarations, and set up an Authority above all our Laws, under the Cloak of a sham Liberty of Conscience, racking at the very same time the Consciences of the Church-of-England-men, and undermining the Foundation of our State. If Mr. *Pen* and his Disciples had condemn'd the unlawfulness of the Declarations and the Dispensing Power, when they wrote so fast for Liberty of Conscience, they had then shew'd a generous Zeal for a just Freedom in Matters of Religion, and at the same time a due Veneration to the *Legislative* Power (*King, Lords, and Commons*) but the secret of the *Machine*, was to maintain and erect a Prerogative above all Acts of Parliament, and consequently to introduce upon that bottom *Tyranny and Popery*; yet, notwithstanding all this uncontrollable Power, and shew of *Grandeur*, an Easterly Wind, and a fleet of Fly-Boats, would cancel and undo all again. Our *Munkish* Historians relate of King *John*, that being in some distress, he sent Sir *Tho. Hardington*, and Sir *Ralph Fitz-Nicholas*, Ambassadors to *Mirammumalim*, the great Emperor of *Morocco*, with offers of his Kingdom to him, upon Condition he would come and aid him, and that if he prevail'd, he would himself turn *Mahometan* and renounce *Popery*.

I will not insist upon the Violations of Laws and Treaties in the *Low Countries*, or the *Spanish* Tyranny over them, because the *Spaniards* have got so much by that Persecution and Cruelty, that they might be tempted to practise the like again; for by forcing the *Netherlanders* to take up Arms for their Defence, and by necessitating Queen *Elizabeth* to assist and preserve them, they have set up a Free and Glorious State (as they themselves have call'd them in some Treaties) that hath preserv'd the languishing Monarchy of *Spain*, and the Liberty of *Christendom*.

The base and cowardly *Massacre* of that great Hero *William* Prince of *Orange*, of the Renowned Admiral *Coligny*, and the Prince of *Conde*; the many Bloody Conspiracies for the extirpation of the whole Race of the House of *Orange*; the Murders of *Henry* the Second, and *Henry* the Fourth, are all records and everlasting Monuments of Popish Barbarity; that incredible Effusions of Blood hath been occasion'd by the frequent Revolts of the Popes against the Emperors, by the

Image-Worship and the Holy Wars? What Treachery in the *Bohemian* Transactions and Treaties? What Inhumanity in burning *Jerome of Prague*, and *John Hus*? when they had the Emperor's Pass, and all other publick Securities from the Council it self, that put to Death those two good Men.

The Reign of Queen *Mary* is another Scene of the Infidelity and Treachery of the Church of *Rome*; what Oaths did she take? What Promises and Protestations did she make to the *Suffolk* Men who had set the Crown upon her Head, and yet they were the first that felt the strokes of Persecution from *Her*? Read her History in *Fox's Martyrs*, and Dr. *Burnet's* History of the Reformation.

The many Conspiracies to destroy Queen *Elizabeth* and King *James*, the *Gunpowder-Plot*, the Counsels carried on in Popish Countries to take off King *Charles* the First, and the many late Popish Plots are a continued Series and Thred, carried on by the Church of *Rome*, to break through all Laws both of God and Man, to erect an Universal Monarchy of *Priest-Craft*, and to bring the whole World under their Yoke. The *Swedes* have taken an effectual and commendable way to keep Popish *Priests* and *Jesuits* (those *Boutefeu* and Disturbers of Societies, the declared Enemies to the Welfare of Mankind) out of their Countries by Gelding them, and consequently rendring them incapable of Sacerdotal Functions, tho the *Priests* have found out a *Salvo*, and will say Mass and Confess, if they can procure their *Testicles* again, and carry them in their Pockets, either preserv'd or in Powder: In *Arhippia*, *China*, and *Japan*, the Romish *Priests* have been so intollerbly turbulent, and such extravagant Incendiaries, that they have been often banished and put to Death; so that now they disguise themselves all over the Eastern Nations, under the Names and Characters of *Mathematicians*, *Mechanicks*, *Physicians*, &c. and dare not own their Mission to propagate a Faith which is grown ridiculous all over *Asia*.

The long and dreadful Civil Wars of *France*; the many *Massacres* and *Persecutions*, and lastly, the Siege of *Rochel*, are living Instances how far we may rely upon Engagements and Laws, both as to the taking of that *Bulwark*, and the promised Relief from hence. The *Protestant* Defenders of it, refusing to rely any longer upon Paper Edicts; and the Word of

a Most Christian King, had this City granted them as a Cautionary Town for their Security; for before they had always been deluded out of their Advantages by fair Promises, insignificant Treaties, and the Word of a King; yet Lewis the 13th following the vitious Examples, of Treacherous Princes, fell upon this Glorious City, which, upon the account of their Laws and Privileges, made a Resistance and brave Defence, (having never heard of Passive Obedience amongst their Pastors) thinking it more lawful to defend their Rights, than it was for Lewis to invade them.

As for the late and present Reign here in England, they are too nice and tender Things for me to touch; whether the Transactions of them are consistent with the Coronation Oaths, the many Declarations, Protestations, publick and solemn Promises, I am no fit Judge; they are more proper for the Gravity of an Historian, or the Authority of a Parliament to handle, than for a private Gentleman in a Letter to his Friend. The Bishops Papers, and the Prince of Orange's Declarations, are the best Memoires of them; but they only begin where the two parts of the History of the growth of Popery and Arbitrary Government left off; and how far we may trust to Catholick Stipulations, Oaths and Treaties, the Facts of past and the present Age are the best *Criteria* and Rules to guide and determine us; for what happens every day, will in all probability happen to morrow, the same Causes always produce the same Effects; and the Church of Rome is still the same Church it was an hundred Years ago, that is, a Mass of Treachery, Barbariety, Perjury, and the highest Superstition; a Machine without any Principle or settled Law of Motion, not to be mov'd or stop'd with the weights of any private or publick Obligations; a Monster that destroys all that is Sacred both in Heaven and Earth, so Ravenous that it is never content, unless it gets the whole World into its Claws, and tears all to pieces in order to Salvation; a Proteus, that turns it self into all shapes; a Chameleon, that puts on all Colours according to its present circumstances, this day an *Angel* of Light, to morrow a *Beelzebub*. Amongst all the Courts of Christendom where I have conversed, that of Holland is the freest from Tricks and Falsehood; and tho I am naturally jealous and suspicious of the Conduct of Princes, yet I could never discover the least Knavery within

those Walls, it appear'd to me another *Albion* of Philosophers, and the only Seat of Justice and Vertue now left in the World. As for the Character of the Prince of *Orange*, it is so faithfully drawn by Sir *William Temple*, Doctor *Burnet*, and in a half sheet lately printed, that I, who am so averse from Flattery, that I can scarce speak a good word of any Body, or think one good thought of my self, will not write any further Panegerick upon his Highness, only that he is a very Honest Man, a Great Souldier, and a Wise Prince, upon whose Word the World may safely rely.

A late Pamphleteer reviles the Prince, with breaking his Oath when he took the Stat-holder's Oath upon him; not considering that the Oath was impos'd upon his Highness in his Minority by a French Faction, then jealous of the aspiring and true Grandeur of his Young Soul; that the States themselves (to whom the Obligation was made) freed his Highness from the Bond; and that the Necessity of Affairs, and the Importunities of the People forced that Dignity upon him, which his Ancestors had enjoy'd, and he so well deserv'd, that he sav'd the sinking Common-wealth, (their Provinces being almost all surpriz'd and Enslav'd by the French) compared to the gasping State of *Rome* after the loss at *Canna*; His Highness was no more puffed up with this Success, than he had been daunted with Hardships and Misfortunes; always the same *Hero*, Just, Serene, and Unchang'd under all Events, an Argument of the vastness of his Mind; whereas on the contrary, Mutability (sometimes Tyrant, sometimes Father of a Country, sometimes Huffing, other times Sneaking) is often-times a Symptom of a Mean and Cowardly Soul, vile and dissolute, born for Rapine and Destruction.

As for the Princess, she may without any flattery be stiled the Honour and Glory of her Sex; the most Knowing, the most Vertuous, the Fairest, and yet the best Natur'd Princess in the World; belov'd and admir'd by her Enemies, never seen in any Passion, always under a peculiar sweetness of Temper, extremely moderate in her Pleasures, taking delight in Working and Study; humble and affable in her Conversation, very pertinent in all Questions, charitable to all Protestants, and frequenting their Churches. The Prince is often seen with her at the Prayers of the Church of *England*, and she with the Prince



